

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

FILE NO. **9-492**

REPORT MADE AT LOS ANGELES	DATE WHEN MADE 4/10/41	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 2/7, 12, 25/41	REPORT MADE BY B. S. GORDON
TITLE LOUISE ROBERTS, with alias Lois Bee CECIL B. de MILLE, VICTIM			CHARACTER OF CASE EXTORTION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

On February 7, 1941, the Los Angeles Field Division received a letter which had been addressed to CECIL B. de MILLE, Director, Paramount Studios, California, with the request that any violation of the Extortion Statute be given attention. The letter referred to Assistant United States Attorney NORMAN W. NEUKOM, who declined prosecution. Letter sent to Bureau Technical Laboratory.

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DETAILS:

AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

On February 7, 1941, Miss FLORENCE COLE, Secretary to CECIL B. de MILLE, 5451 Marathon Street, Hollywood, California, forwarded by mail the following letter to the Los Angeles Field Division for investigation or any such action as the Bureau might wish to take:

"2608 N. 73rd Avenue,
Elmwood Park, Ill.
January 26, 1941.

"Mr. CECIL B. De MILLE
Paramount Studios

Dear Sir:

I enclose for you a letter from the post office at Chicago, Illinois, dated January 26, 1941, addressed to you.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED <i>[Signature]</i>	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES APR 18 1941	APR 23 1941 100
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 3-Bureau 1-RA, Los Angeles 2-Los Angeles		

L. A. #9-492

care us to share us by wire in the manner in which you help to conduct it. Not until recently had we realized the seriousness and yet the greatness of the whole affair and am given to believe you will and can do a great deal to help the whole entire situation during these most trying days.

"You tell me by wire you'll help to adopt this (wordly) worldly responsibility of ours by making my means possible to be borne to your side and California for a most needed change as well as the "World's Greatest Find," rather than just the writer I wrote about not so long ago, but give me to feel that I'm a commercial for us in between time.

"You've also offered to adopt my daughter's ROSEMARY and ELAINE ROBERTS from what might have been the "Cradle" in Evanston, Ill. but haven't gotten around to that and would rather not if I can get by with my own means for better support through this.

"As we all know my reach by wire is made possible by the "Federal Gov't" and am always reminded of and heralded as a find and meant to be, but not completely able to risk earnings for fare in any other line.

"I've been a great boost for your stock as well as being able to offer us a good many lyrics and "character type." Please me by forwarding a liberal amount in cash to cover my expenses for to be borne with and help to avoid all further embarrassment.

"Not to respond would mean we'd be ungrateful to the "federal gov't" and the "League of Nations" for what they've meant to be a toast.

"Again I'd like to remind us my daughters future and welfare depends a great deal upon this as well. (or their adoption) They're fine girls and very beautiful.

"I must add I'm a descendant of the 'Royal House of St. Britain' which dates back to the days of the former Queen ELIZABETH and expected to make the climb back to high society before making a presence at the Royal House.

L. A. #9-492

"Please me my strife and nation by having me borne through whatever means you may have to offer and let's see how much of this can be lived in the very near future by reaching me by mail.

"Wishing us the best of luck, I am

"Yours truly,
LOUISE ROBERTS
(pseudonym) LOIS BEBE"

On February 25, 1941, Assistant United States Attorney NORMAN W. NEUKOM reviewed the letter and declined prosecution, stating, "None of the elements necessary for prosecution under the Extortion Statute are present. I believe the letter is the work of a crank and not worthy of investigation." Accordingly, the case is being closed. The letter will be forwarded to the Bureau Technical Laboratory for inclusion in Known Handwriting Specimen File.

- C L O S E D -

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Los Angeles, California
April 15, 1941

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

ATTENTION: TECHNICAL LABORATORY

Re: LOUISE ROBERTS, w.a.,
CECIL B. de MILLE, Victim;
EXTORTION.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith please find a letter believed to have been written by LOUISE ROBERTS, alias Lois Bebe, 2608 North 73rd Avenue, Elmwood Park, Illinois, and addressed to Mr. CECIL B. de MILLE, Paramount Studios, Hollywood, California. This case is covered by Los Angeles Field Division report dated April 10, 1941, by Special Agent B. S. GORDON, and having Los Angeles File No. 9-492.

Inasmuch as the United States Attorney's Office in Los Angeles has declined prosecution, no examination is requested by the Los Angeles Field Division. The letter is furnished to the Technical Laboratory for inclusion in the known handwriting file, or for any other disposition the Technical Laboratory deems advisable.

Very truly yours,


R. B. HOOD
Special Agent in Charge

UNRECORDED COPY TO INVEST. DIV.
ORIGINAL TO LABORATORY

226/hp
9-492

RECORDED

Copy and Specimens Retained in Laboratory

FILE

4/25/41
T.S.

9-7519-2
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
6 APR 16 1941
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Page Two

Laboratory Report #46804

Specimen Q3 is a white linen finish sheet of paper bearing a message that has been written in script with blue-black ink. The physical characteristics of specimen Q3 are similar to those of specimen Q2.

Specimens Q1 through Q3 were chemically treated for the development of latent fingerprints but no prints of any value were obtained.

The Anonymous Letter File was searched with the possibility of locating other letters in other cases which might have been written by the writer of specimens Q1 through Q3, but a combination of individual handwriting characteristics appearing in the current specimens were not found in any of the letters of this file. A photographic copy of the handwriting appearing on specimens Q1 through Q3 will be added to this file and in the event of any future identification your office will be so advised.

The original evidence submitted is being retained in the files of the Laboratory unless otherwise advised.

Photographic copies of specimens Q1 through Q3 are being transmitted to your office herewith.

2-Los Angeles
1-Laboratory

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Laboratory Report

May 7, 1941

EAS:ZHU

File # 9-7579-2

Re: Louise Roberts, w. a.,
Cecil B. de Mille, victim
KIDNAPING

Lab # 46804

Examination requested by: Los Angeles, California

Reference: Letter 4/15/41

Examination requested: Document - Fingerprint

Specimens:

Feehan

- 9-7579-2 Q1 One envelope postmarked, "21 Chicago, Ill., Jan.
28, 1941, 4:30 P. M.", addressed to the victim.
Q2 First sheet of accompanying letter beginning,
"You're one of the most....."
Q3 Second sheet of accompanying letter beginning,
"Again I'd like to remind us my daughter's future..."

Result of examination:

Specimen Q1 is a white linen finish envelope bearing three cancelled 1¢ Horace Mann stamps. The address on this specimen has been written in script with blue-black ink. Specimen Q1 bears the printed words "Self seal envelope 4 43 Pat. RE. 19,833 Made by United States Envelope Co.". The United States Envelope Company is located at Springfield, Massachusetts. Specimen Q1 measures 5.78" in length by 3.82" in width by 0.0043" in thickness, weighs 3.721 grams and contains no watermark.

Specimen Q2 is a white linen finish sheet that has been folded to give four writing sides. The message on this specimen has been written in script with blue-black ink. Specimen Q2 measures 10.74" in length by 7.00" in width by 0.0032" in thickness, weighs 5.376 grams and contains no watermark.

9-7579-2

May 7, 1941

AIR MAIL

RECORDED

9-7579-3

RECORDED
MAY 10 1941

Special Agent in Charge
Los Angeles, California

Re: Louise Roberts, w. a. s.
Cecil B. de Wille, Victim
EXTORTION

Dear Sir:

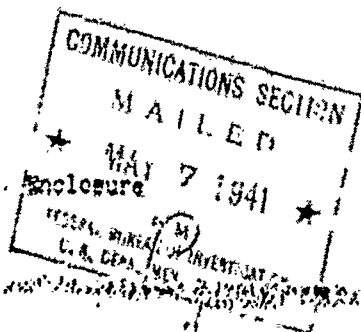
There is transmitted herewith the laboratory report covering the examination of specimens submitted by your office in connection with the above entitled matter and transmitted by your communication dated May 13, 1941.

Very truly yours,

J. E. Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

enclosure



[Handwritten signatures and initials]

2602 N 73rd Avenue,
Edinwood Park, Ill -
January 26, 1941

Mr. Cecil B. De Mille,
Paramount Studios

Dear Sir

Yours one of the
most gracious persons I've ever
known to care us to share us
by wire in the manner in
which you help to conduct it.
Not until recently had we
realized the seriousness and yet
the greatness of the whole af-
fair and are given to be.
Ever yours will and can do

a great deal to help the
~~same~~ entire situation during
these most trying days.

You tell me by wire you'll
effort to adopt this (worldly)
worldly responsibility of ours
by making my means
possible to be home to your
ide and California for a
most needed change as well
as the "World's Greatest Kind",
other than just the writer I
write about not so long ago, but
it is me to feel that I'm a
commercial for me in

3 between times.

You've also offered to
adopt my daughters ^{little} Primary
and Elaine ^{Johns} from what might
have been the "Cradle" in Everett,
Wash. but haven't gotten around
to that and would rather not if
I can get by with my ^{own} means
for better support through this.

As we all know my reach
by wire is made possible by the
"Federal Govt" and am always
reminded of and heralded as
a good & I meant to be, but

not completely able to risk earning
fare in any other line.

I've been a great hand for
your stock as well as being able
to offer us a good many lyrics
and 'character types.' Please me
by forwarding a liberal amount
in cash to cover my expenses for
to be home with and help to
avoid all further emprovement.

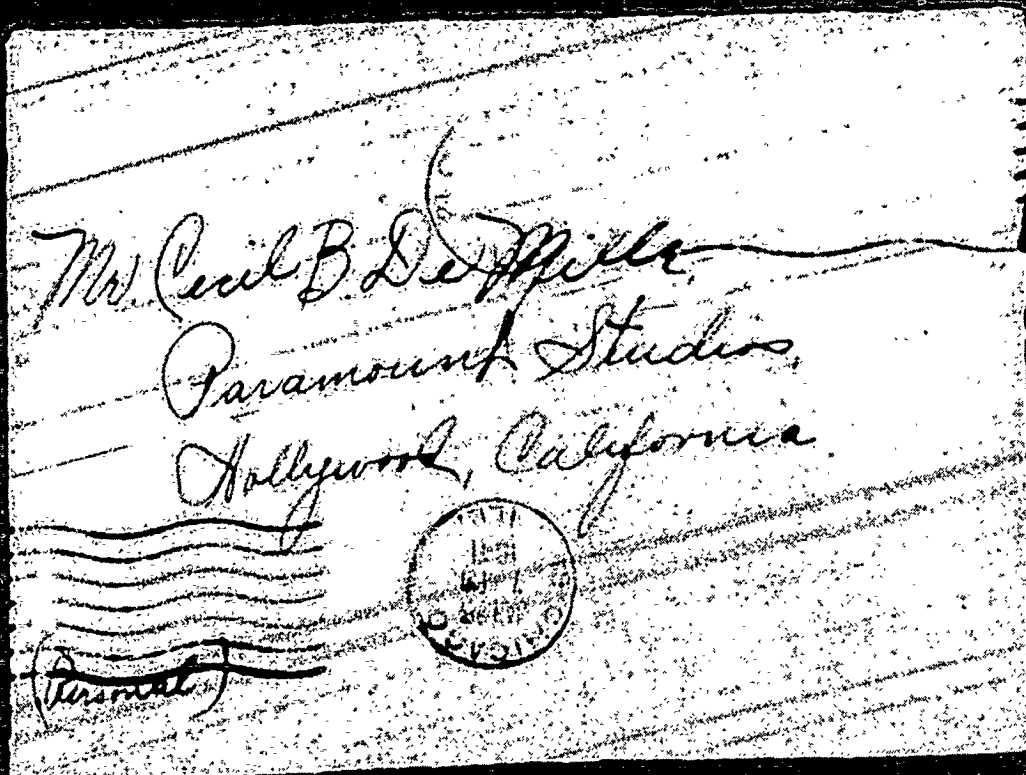
N! to report ^{with} means with
be impatient to the "federal
govt" and the League of Nations"
for what they're meant to be a
trick

5- Again I'd like to remind
us my daughters future
and welfare depends a good
deal upon this as well (or
their adoption...) They're true
girls and very beautiful.

I must add I'm a des-
cendant of the "Royal House
of St. Britain" which dates
back to the days of the former
Queen Elizabeth and expected
to make the climb back to
high society before making
a presence at the Royal House

Please my wife and our
nation by saving me from
through whatever means you
may have to. I would like to
see how much of this can
be lived in the very near
future by reaching me by
mail.
Wishing us the best of luck
I am

Yours truly,
Louise O'Leary
Luis Buñuel
(pseudonym)



Mr. Cecil B. DeMille
Paramount Studios
Hollywood, California



(Cecil B. DeMille)